maximum consideration because this would render the final product costly and uncompetitive. Moreover, the transfer was proposed to a joint venture company in which NMDC itself is a partner. At the same time, the Steel Ministry felt that NMDC should not be put to any pecuniary loss and should be compensated for the actual expenditure that it had incurred on exploration, feasibility and other preliminary works. The Steel Ministry, hence, proposed that the actual expenditure incurred as above, updated to current costs through an appropriate method to be determined by a recognised professional organisation such as the Institute of Cost & Works Accountants of India (ICWAI), should be recovered from the joint venture partner.

The Cabinet, in their meeting on 30.5.95, accorded approval to development of Bailadila 11-B deposit as a joint venture. Based on this, approval was accorded to NMDC on 13.6.95 to form the joint venture company and take other consequential actions. The interests of the local people and trade unions have been safeguarded by advising NMDC to stipulate in the joint venture agreement that the joint venture company will recruit all skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers through the Local Employment Exchange except to the extent that such workers are not available with the Local Employment Exchange. The joint venture agreement has since been signed on 10.7.95.

Senior Posts in ASI Lying Vacant

1211. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the posts of Joint Director General, Additional Director General and Director General and Director General are lying vacant for a long time in A.S.I.;

(b) whether it is also fact that a Professional Archaeologist was heading the Archaeological Survey of India as Director General till 1993 and thereafter a nonprofessional was given charge as Director General for this major organisation; and

(c) if so, the reason why the Professional Archaeologists are not given opportunity to head this Departments monthly; even though many senior qualified professional Archaeologists are currently working in A.S.I.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE (KUMARI SELJA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) After the retirement of the professional archaeologist as Director General no officer of the Survey was found eligible for the post in terms of the extent Recruitment Rules. The Additional Director General (Administration) was given the charge of the current duties of the Director General. The work of Director General, Archaeological Survey of India has now been entrusted to Secretary, Culture.

The Government have proposed amendment of the Recruitment Rules for these posts in consultation with Deptt. of Personnel & Training and Union Public Service Commission to ensure that professional archaeologists of Archaeological Survey of India are given the opportunity to head the Survey.

Education of Tribal Children in Andhra Pradesh

1212. SHRI T. VENKATRAM RADDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of schoolgoing tribal children int the tribal and backward areas of Andhra Pradesh at present; and

(b) whether most of these tribal children in the State are deprived of the right of getting education and opportunities of going to schools for getting elementary/ primary education?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The approximate number of school going tribal children in Andhra Pradesh during 1993-94 is 6.38 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir. Central and State Governments have taken many steps to promote education